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REILLY TAR & CHEMICAL CORPORATION

R. L. Finch

St. Louis Park

W. A. Justin

January 27, 1971

Fire - #15 Still

WO 711201

On January 27, 1971 a fire occurred in the St. Louis Park Refinery. This fire was a result of the left fire tube on #15 still rupturing while the still was being blown. Ignition was apparently spontaneous, since no burners or pilots were operating on the other stills. Damage from the fire was confined to the electrical wiring at #15 still and will cause no loss of production on the other three stills.

Although it will be two days before complete assessment of repairs can be made, I estimate the cost of repair will be \$800.00 to \$1000.00 and five to six days of lost production time.

Loss of material from the still was slight since we were later able to blow the remaining pitch to storage.

The St. Louis Park Fire Department was called and responded within three minutes, however the fire was extinguished before they arrived and their assistance was not needed.

Major damage from the fire was, I feel prevented by prompt and orderly action of all our Refinery Personnel. The still fireman, John Onde, reports that he had the assistance of five people in less than one minute, and fire fighting equipment was in use in less than two minutes.

Very truly yours,

W.A.J.

W. A. Justin

WAJ:sjg

cc: C. F. Lecher - Indpls.

cc Mr. R. J. Boyle.
(1-29-71)

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